

Message Text

SECRET

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13

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

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DRAFTED BY EUR/ NE: SGEORGE: SMW

5/21/73 EXT. 20336

APPROVED BY EUR - MR. SPRINGSTEEN

----- 126890

R 212220 Z MAY 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

INFO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION NATO

S E C R E T STATE 097317

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR IC

SUBJECT: IDF RETENTION: SWEDISH ANGLE

1. SWEDISH CHARGE (LEIFLAND) TOLD DEPTOFF (GEORGE) MAY 18 THAT SWEDISH AMBASSADOR IN REYKJAVIK HAD BEEN INFORMED BY HIGHLY- PLACED GOI SOURCE THAT GOI INTENDS INVOKE ARTICLE VII OF US- ICELAND AGREEMENT. DECISION TAKE THIS STEP ALLEGEDLY MADE AT PROGRESSIVE PARTY MEETING EARLY MAY. LEIFLAND ADDED THAT SWEDISH AMBASSADOR WAS TOLD GOI HAS ASKED USG WHETHER ICELANDERS COULD NOT CARRY OUT FUNCTIONS NOW BEING PERFORMED BY IDF.

2. LEIFLAND SAID HE WAS MENTIONING MATTER BECAUSE OF HIS GOVERNMENT' S CONCERN THAT IDF MIGHT BE FORCED LEAVE ICELAND. HE SAID PRIMIN PALME HAD VOICED THIS CONCERN DURING CERTAIN DISCUSSIONS HELD WHEN PALME VISITED ICELAND RECENTLY. GEORGE ASKED WHETHER LEIFLAND AWARE ANY SWEDISH GOVERNMENT INTENTION PURSUE MATTER FURTHER WITH GOI AT THIS JUNCTURE. LEIFLAND SAID HE WAS NOT INFORMED ON POINT. HE OBSERVED
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THAT AS NON- NATO NEUTRAL AND COUNTRY WHICH CAN HARDLY BE
THOUGHT TO BE ACTING IN COLLUSION WITH US, SWEDEN MIGHT BE
ABLE TO DO SOMETHING USEFUL IN MATTER. GEORGE DID NOT TAKE
SUBJECT ANY FURTHER.

3. ON SUBSTANCE OF PROBLEM, GEORGE SAID WE HAVE BEEN IN-
FORMED OF PURPORTEDLY FIRM GOI DECISION INVOKE ARTICLE VII.

ON QUESTION OF ICELANDERS TAKING OVER IDF FUNCTIONS, WE
HAVE STUDIED AND CAN FORESEE POSSIBILITY LIMITED NUMBER OF
ICELANDERS TAKING OVER CERTAIN SPECIFIC JOBS NOW BEING
DONE BY IDF PERSONNEL, BUT CONCEPT OF OVERALL TAKEOVER BY
ICELAND OF PRESENT IDF FUNCTIONS QUITE OUT OF QUESTION.
RUSH

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NMAFVVZCZ

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NATO
OSLO
REYKJAVIK
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